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REGIONAL CO-OPERATION

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

Programme budget implications of resolution 680 (XXV) on the future of the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning, adopted by the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) at its sixteenth meeting, held at Tripoli in May 1990

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 31 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council

1. At its sixteenth meeting, held at Tripoli in May 1990, The Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) adopted a number of resolutions, one of which, resolution 680 (XXV) on the future of the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning, would have implications for the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991. The resolution is before the Economic and Social Council for endorsement (see E/1990/84, Sect. I). The present statement contains the programme budget implications of the resolutions.

2. By paragraph 2 of the resolution, the Conference of Ministers called upon the General Assembly, as a matter of urgency, to approve the inclusion of four key posts for the Institute in the United Nations regular budget, namely, the Director, the Chief of Administration and Finance and two senior lecturers, in line with the recommendation of the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 1985/62 of 26 July 1985, to enable the Institute to carry out its approved work programme and functions on a continued and sustained basis as stipulated in its Statute.

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3. Should the Economic and Social Council endorse the resolution, it would have to request the General Assembly to approve the inclusion of the four key posts of the Institute into the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991 under section 13 (Economic Commission for Africa).

4. In connection with those posts, it should be noted that they constitute part of the staffing of the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning and are currently financed from extrabudgetary resources. The key posts are the following:

(a) Director of the Institute, at the D-1 level;

(b) Chief of Administration and Finance, at the P-5 level;

(c) Two senior lecturers, each at the P-4 level.

5. It is estimated that the inclusion as a matter of urgency of the above four posts in the regular budget would result in additional requirements for 1991 under section 13 of the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991 in the amount of $412,800 for salary and common staff costs.

6. Should the Economic and Social Council endorse the resolution and should it decide, in accordance with rule 31 of its rules of procedure, that the recommendation contained therein constituted a case of exceptional urgency, to be implemented during the current biennium, the programme budget implications of that decision of the Council would be submitted to the General Assembly for consideration.

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REGIONAL CO-OPERATION

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

Implementation of General Assembly resolution 43/216 concerning, inter alia, the functioning of the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres (MULPOCs) of the Economic Commission for Africa

Note by the Secretary-General

1. At its forty-third session, the General Assembly adopted resolution 43/216 entitled "Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors", paragraphs 4 and 6 of which read as follows:

> "4. Endorses the concurring observations and recommendations of the Board of Auditors and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions as contained in their respective reports, duly taking into account the divergent views expressed in the Fifth Committee on the question of the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres and the Pan-African Documentation and Information System;

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"6. Requests the Secretary-General and the executive heads of United Nations organizations and programmes concerned to take without delay appropriate measures within their competence in the light of the comments, observations and recommendations of the Board of Auditors and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, including those relating to financial reporting, budgetary controls, unliquidated obligations, cash management, trust funds, and hiring of consultants, experts and temporary assistance, and to report to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session, through the governing bodies of these organizations and programmes;"

2. In accordance with the requirements of that resolution, a review team has been established in the Secretariat to evaluate thoroughly the achievements of the MULPOCs, with a view to deciding whether the experiment should be continued to whether the mandate, number and structure of those centres should be completely reorganized, as had been recommended by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in its report to the General Assembly on the subject (A/43/674 and Corr.1, para. 13). Under its mandate, the review team would have to report on the subject to the Secretary-General through the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa and the Under-Secretary-General for Administration and Management of the Secretariat.

3. The review exercise of MULPOCs by the review team was completed in 1989 and its findings submitted in early 1990. Those findings are currently being reviewed by the Secretariat. The report of the Secretary-General on the subject, including proposals relating to the programme budget implications of the recommendations of the review team, will be submitted to the General Assembly for consideration at its forty-fifth session. In the course of the preparation of that report, observations and recommendations by the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa, outlined in its resolution 702 (XXV), as well as observations by the Council on the above subject, would be fully taken into account.